

63 Years of DX-cellence

March 2011



BULLetin

The Southern California DX Club

"If you need him get in there and work him"

The Southern California DX Club is a group of dedicated men and women active in the amateur radio community who enjoy communicating over the air with other radio amateurs around the world.

The SCDXC strongly supports the DX Code of Conduct. Please visit their website:

www.dx-code.org

The newsletter is published every month and is released to its members about the first of each month. Amateur and DX related letters, news and pictures are welcome and will be published as time and space permit.

Articles may be republished with the recognition of the author and the club. Reuse of copyrighted materials require the original author's permission.

Any questions regarding this newsletter or its articles should be addressed to the editor, Bill:

n6rv@scdxc.org

Meetings are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30 PM except April, June and December.

Please check the club web site for events and details at:

<http://www.scdxc.org>

If you are in the area please say hello on our repeater:

W6AM/R145.48,(-) 100Hz PL



NEXT MEETING

March 10 @ 7:30 PM!

David Ziskin, AG6E

Haiti Relief 2009

A Navy Reserve Radio Operators Perspective

MEMBERSHIP IS PAST DUE!!!!!!

• A New Entity is Coming in July!

And Bob, N6OX, is Going There!

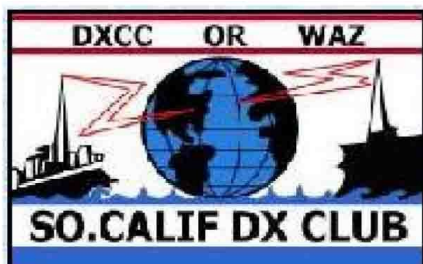
• T5 / 60 Somalia!

• ARRL SSB DX Contest!

• We Always Need

Reporters
Articles & Interesting Tidbits

Making friends all over the world using the magic of Amateur Radio.
Sponsors of the International DX Convention, since 1949



Southern California DX Club, Inc.

Membership Renewal []

New Member Application []

Date _____

Name _____ Birthday (MM) _____ Call Sign _____

Spouses Name _____ Birthday (MM) _____ Call Sign _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone Home: (_____) _____ - _____ [] Do not list in club directory

Work: (_____) _____ - _____ [] Do not list in club directory

E-mail: _____ [] Do not list in club directory or web site

Have you confirmed 40 CQ Zones? Not yet: [], Yes [], I have a WAZ certificate: [].

Spouse? Not yet: [], Yes [], Has a WAZ certificate: [].

Have you confirmed 100 Countries? Not yet: [], Yes [], I have a DXCC certificate: [].

Spouse? Not yet: [], Yes [], Has a DXCC certificate: [].

Are you an ARRL Member? No: [] Yes: [] Life: []

--- **Renewal Membership, Full or Associate - \$18.00 USD Per Calendar Year (Jan – Dec)**
(Additional Family Members \$4.50 USD ea)

Overseas / Supporting Membership - \$18.00 USD Per Calendar Year (Jan-Dec)

New Membership, All Types - \$1.50 Times the Number of Months Remaining in Year
(Example: Join in September, pay 4 x \$1.50 – Family Members @ additional 25%)

BADGES

Small: (1.5"H X 2"W) [] Medium: (2"H X 3"W) [] Large: (3"H X 3.75"W) []

\$10.00 USD ea including postage (to US addresses)

For badge shipping costs to overseas locations contact Mel Hughes, K6SY at k6sy@scdxc.org.

Make checks payable to Southern California DX Club or SCDXC

Mail Membership Fees and/or Badge Fees to:

Mel Hughes, K6SY, 28017 San Nicolas Dr., Rancho Palos Verdes, CA 90275

For club use only

Dues recvd by _____ Amt \$ _____ Date _____ Full Member []

QSLs verified by _____ Date _____ Associate Member []

DXCC _____ WAZ _____ Former Member _____ At-Large Member []

Notes: _____ Supporting Member []

Aug 10, 2010

SCDXC Annual Picnic

Sunday June 12, 2011 at 11:00am



The SCDXC Picnic will be held Sunday, June 12, at Woodley Park, Grove 1, in Van Nuys. The club provides hamburgers, hot dogs, chicken, drinks, and paper goods. Bring a side dish and your appetite! Talk in on W6AM/R 145.480Mhz PL 100.00hz.

We will have our special raffle board for a chance at a Yaesu FT-450D! The spots will be \$10.00 each. Square sales start at the March meeting.

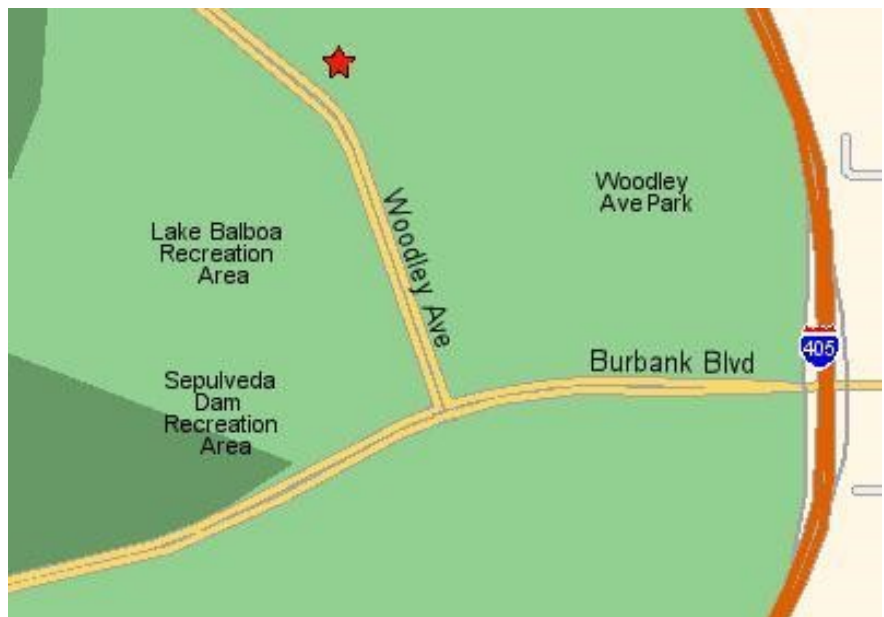


<http://www.yaesu.com/indexVS.cfm?cmd=DisplayProducts&ProdCatID=102&encProdID=870B3CA7CFCB61E6A599B0EFEA2217E4&DivisionID=65&isArchived=0>

From the south exit the 405 freeway at Burbank, this is the first exit past the 101 Fwy. Turn left (West) onto Burbank travel about 3/4 of a mile to Woodley Ave. Turn Right at the stop light and go north about 3/4 of a mile. The entrance to the picnic area and parking lot will be on the right (East) side and is just north of the entrance to the Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant.

From the north exit the 405 Freeway at Burbank, Turn right (West) onto Burbank travel about 3/4 of a mile to Woodley Ave. Turn Right at the stop light and go north about 3/4 of a mile. The entrance to the picnic area and parking lot will be on the right (East) side and is just north of the entrance to the Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant.

See you there!



THE PREZ SEZ

John Schroeder, N6QQ,
President – Southern California DX Club
n6qq@scdxc.org

Hello Everybody!

My first meeting as President was very interesting. Now only 9 more to go. Looking ahead I see the ranks on the board may be diminishing. It is a good time to consider stepping in. Also any assistance this year with even the simple tasks is appreciated. I did not see how things got done until I was vice president. Now that I understand it I can no longer sit in the back of the room while others do the work.

Our past president, Larry, K6YUI received his new black badge and a nice award to add to his wall collection. Thanks Larry for the work you have put in as one of those silent helpers. We are looking forward to your continued support both this year.

Has everyone signed up for the Visalia IDXC?? I don't know how the seating chart is working out for the Northern California DX club. We had our first board meeting and selected Mel, K6SY, and Carl, WU6D, as our co-chairmen for the 2012 IDXC. They are already watching to see how the seating application. They also had their first informal meeting at Mel's after the 2011 Holiday Party taste test at The Reef in Long Beach. I heard the restaurant had lost several pounds of food in the transaction and the five who braved the task gained several pounds and a lost a few bucks from their wallets! Sounds like it was a fair exchange to me!

Are you ready to work the YL DXpedition at Signal Point (PJ2T)? Marilyn, KJ6YL, and group will be there this month. Skip claims he is going to get a lot of beach time consuming flowered tropical drinks on the cabana. Hopefully we will not see any pictures of him hanging off one of the towers fixing a broken yagi! Check out the YL's web site: YLDXpeditions.com -- for more information.

Just completed 23 hours of contesting in the ARRL DX CW contest (February 17-19) Did you operate during this weekend. We had the largest Solar Flux number (112) in 4 years. The Sun spots were 65-70 most of the weekend. Does the SF of 112 help ? I worked 47 countries on 10 meters over the weekend. The biggest JA's 10 meter opening in years. Around 4:00 pm local time, Saturday - we had an opening into Asia that lasted about an 1 hour. Worked over 70 JA's in that hour. Had a real pile-up going. Lots of South Pacific, Alaska and others with strong signals.

Bill, N6RV had a good start with his first Raffle. I finally won the digital camera I've been after. I am looking forward to see what goodies Bill have for the March raffle.

Looking for a little DX for new or for band fillers, there are over 30 DXpeditions schedule for March. Lots like a busy month. The two largest contests in March:

For the RTTY fans - BARTG HF RTTY Contest - March 19-20.

For WPX's fans - CQ WW WPX SSB Contest - March 26-27.

See you at the March meeting.

73, John N6QQ President, SCDXC



Treasurer's Report

Club financial information is available on request. Contact the treasurer.

Officer Guidelines

The revised version of the Officers Guidelines is available on our website. See the hyperlink below.

Code of Conduct

SCDXC endorses the the **DX Code of Conduct** See the hyperlink below.

Officer Guidelines

http://www.scdxc.org/download/Officer_Guidelines.pdf

DX Code of Conduct

<http://www.dx-code.org/>



VICE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Bill Kendrick, N6RV,
Vice President Editor – SCDXC
n6rv@scdxc.org

March Madness!

Hello Fellow DXers!

Well February is over and we are heading into March. Before you know it we will be in Visalia again. It was good to see everyone at the meeting and a special thanks goes out to Marty, N6VI, for another wonderful presentation.

This month's presenter is a very unique individual. Dave Ziskin, AG6E, is one of the few Radio Officers left in the Navy. He also works for the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution aboard their research vessels. His career has taken him to places few others have ventured. This month he will be presenting his experience as a Naval radio officer on board a relief ship in Haiti right after the earthquake. Having seen this presentation I can assure you this overview of the efforts in Haiti is well worth seeing. Dave's unique insight and perspective is one you will not see on a TV newscast.

As I write this column one of our intrepid DXpeditioners, Bob, N6OX, is in Cameroon. The team is doing an excellent job! I am sure he will have some exciting stories. We will be looking forward to another great presentation!

The solar flux is on the rise! It passed 100 this weekend. The CQWW WPX RTTY contest netted several new entities including S9DX and ST2AR. Don't forget the ARRL SSB DX Contest!

Mel reports that membership is at about 75%. If you have not renewed please do so as soon as possible. Don't miss out on the fun we have planned this year!

Let me sneak this last comment in. Dave Bell has been working on an on line book and it is a real winner! I guarantee that once you start reading it you will not want to stop and when you are done you will want to read more! Dave you have a few chapters to add! Dig into it at:

<http://worldsbesthobby.com/node/2>

See you at the March Meeting!

73, de N6RV Vice President SCDXC

... ..

DXer of The Year

Congratulations
Ernie N6HY!

Clipperton Award

Congratulations
Rich AE6RS!

New Members

Please welcome new members:

Peter Narins
K2IXQ

Gene Brewer
W5DQ

Rick Crosmer
W6ENZ

Roger Merideth
K6GVO

Rob Reichman
WA3IHV

Stan Thornton
K16QM

Mark Willardson
N6OUZ

Barry Fitshe
N6VOH

Timothy Coker
N6WIN

Make sure you meet and greet them at the next meeting!

February Prize Winners

- | | |
|--------------------------|--------|
| 1) HP 20" Monitor | N6QQ |
| 2) Nikon Camera | N6QQ |
| 3) Uniden 5 Set Phone | N6RV |
| 4) Brothers Label Maker | NY6Y |
| 5) Webcam + Bulbs | NQ6L |
| 6) Cordless Screwdriver | N6VNI |
| 7) USB Drive + Paper + | K6AWB |
| 8) Multimeter + Tool Kit | W6HT |
| 9) Mouse + Paper + | W6HTW |
| 10) Mouse + Paper + | K2IXQ |
| 11) Hobby Vice + | KC6TOD |

Another bunch of great prizes were raffled off this month. John, N6QQ, added to the pile when he brought over a bunch of items he had left over from last year. If you have something you would like to see in selection at one of the future meetings let me

New DXer Resources

New DXers Handbook

http://www.udxa.org/attachments/148_New_DXers_Handbook.pdf

RUMORS ON THE BAND

A plethora of announcements, rumors, and serious DX fun

The big DXpeditions for this month are **Andaman Islands**, **Cocos Keeling Island**, & **Sable Island**. The ARRL SSB DX contest is at the beginning of the month and the CQ WPX SSB contest is at the very end of the month. Look for a lot of activity then.

VKØ - HEARD ISLAND

Chris Dimitrijevic, VK3FY, the Team Leader for The Spratly Islands, DXØDX, DXpedition in January 2011, has announced that the planning phase for Heard Island 2013 has begun. The Co-Leader for Heard Island DXpedition is Steve Chamberlain VK6IR.

In 2013 it is proposed to have a 13-member DXpedition team on the island for two weeks. Costs are expected to be in the order of \$USD-500,000. The key preliminaries are to seek a permit to land on the World Heritage Site marine reserve located some 4,000 kilometers south-west of mainland Australia.

Chris, VK3FY, has already had discussions with the office of the relevant Australian Government Minister and submitted an application for Ministerial approval. An appropriate ship for this journey has been sourced and negotiations have begun with its owners. Once those steps are completed, or satisfactorily progressed, at least one callsign will be sought from the Australian Communications and Media Authority, and an internet website set up to keep everyone informed.

7O—Yemen

On another note it appears a Yemen DXpedition to Socotra Island (AF-028) is in the works. A website is set up with little information at this time. <http://7o7s.de/>

Blue Information indicate particularly rare entities and **Red information** indicate SCDXC member attended DXpedition. As always you have to turn on your radio to work them.

Useful DX Sites

N0HR DXpedition Map
www.n0hr.com/wk34/

The DX Zone
www.dxzone.com/catalog/DX_Resources/

The Daily DX
www.dailydx.com/

Announced DX Ops
www.ng3k.com/misc/adxo.html

DXing.info
www.dxing.info/dxpeditions/

DX 425 News
www.425dxn.org/dxped/

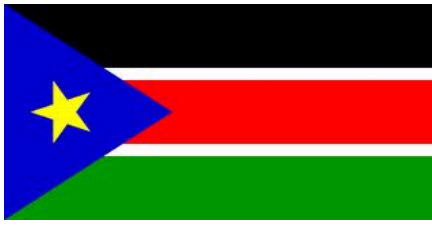
Dx-info.de
www.dx-info.de

DX Italia DX News
www.marioi2mqp.it

DH9SB Weekly DX Calendar
<http://www.dx-info.de>

Call	QTH	Start Date	End Date	Information	Website
VK9C/G6AY	Cocos Keeling Island	Now	3/5/2011	Phil, G3SWH & Jim, G3RTE, CW Only 80-10	-
P29CW	Papua New Guinea	Now	3/5/2011	VK2GR VK2FXGR 80-10m	http://www.p29cw.blogspot.com/
LU1ZS	South Shetland Isl.	Now	3/15/2011	LU8DIP, 20 & 80 SSB	-
D2AM	Angola	Now	3/17/2011	OM5AM	-
9G1AA	Ghana	Now	3/20/2011	PA3DEW, PA3FQX 20 & 15 SSB	-
J5UAP	Guinea Bassau	Now	3/31/2011	HA3AUI 160-10m CW RTTY	http://cgafrika.net/
ZS8M	Marion Island	Now	4/1/2011	ZS1HF working trip on the air when possible.	-
5X1NH	Uganda	Now	4/14/2011	G3RWF, 80-10 CW, SSB, RTTY	-
YA	Afghanistan	Now	5/30/2011	KD5NOI (T6JC) & K5TLL (T6TL) 40-10 SSB & Digital	-
ZD9	Gough Island	Now	9/1/2011	ZS1LF	-
YI	Iraq	Now		KB2RLB (YI1RLB), KG4GYS (YI4GYS)	-
CY0	Sable Island	3/7/2011	3/15/2011	N0TG/CY0, AA4VK/CY0, WA4DAN/CY0	http://www.cy0dxpedition.com/
7P8	Lesotho	3/11/2011	3/20/2011	K5LBU (7P8CF) & W5KDJ (7P8KDJ) 160-10m CW, SSB, RTTY	http://www.tdxs.net/lesotho2011.html
VU4BP	Andaman Island	3/15/2011	3/31/2011		http://arsi.info/dxpeditions/vu4pb-mar-2011/83-vu4pb-dxpedition-to-the-andamans
9L5MS	Sierra Leone	3/15/2011	4/4/2011	PA3A PD0CAV PA8AD PA3AN; 160-10m;	http://www.sierraleone2011.com/sl_2011/home.php
VK9CF	Cocos Keeling Island	3/19/2011	3/29/2011	NL8F SSB 160-10	-

MORE RUMORS ON THE BAND



Southern Sudan

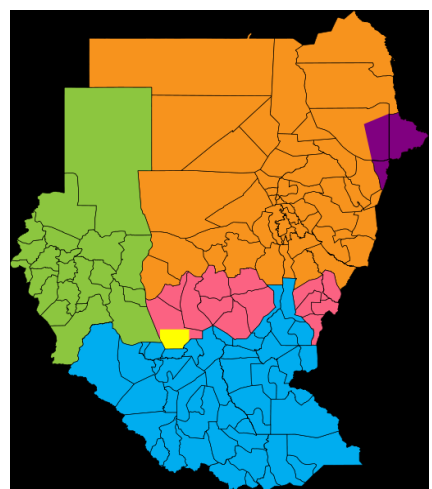
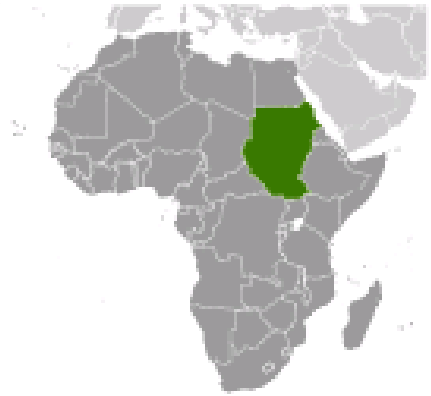
In 2005 the government of Sudan and The Sudanese Peoples Liberation Movement (SPLM) signed The Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) also known as the Naivasha Agreement. This granted autonomy to Southern Sudan for 6 years followed by a referendum resulting in the formation of a new independent state. As you recall Southern Sudan was once an autonomous entity on the DXCC list. The formation of a new country ensures that we will add a new entity to the DXCC list! The United States will recognize the new country when it is established in July, 2011. July 9 this year is the announced date. The name of the country is not yet established.

Alex, 5Z4DZ/PA3DZN, Robert, S53R and Martti, OH2BH are heading up an effort to establish an amateur radio service in the country. As you can understand there is very little in the way of government administration and the long and difficult process of setting up a government will be underway shortly. With assistance from Kenya and other nations this government will smoothly transition into the lead role. The team has connections with various institutions that will assist in the process and hopefully they will assist in writing the laws for this country's radio amateur service.

Background

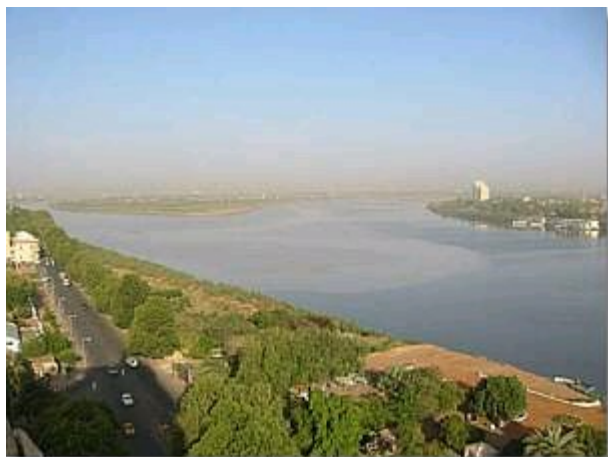
The Sudan is located in northeastern Africa. It borders Egypt to the north, the Red Sea to the northeast, Eritrea and Ethiopia to the east, Kenya and Uganda to the southeast, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Central African Republic to the southwest, Chad to the west and Libya to the northwest. The world's longest river, the Nile, divides the country between east and west sides. The northern region is arid desert and the southern region is tropical. The capital Khartoum serves as the political, cultural, and commercial center of the nation while Omdurman is the largest city.

This region has been known for conflict. War, famine, and genocide are familiar experiences for the inhabitants. The basis for these conflicts have been natural resources, various ethnicities which align either with Arabia, Egypt or Africa, and diverse beliefs, Islam, Christianity, and the ancient belief, animism, which posits that non human life, and even inanimate objects have a soul or spirit. The North Sudan and South Sudan division over beliefs and ethnicity dates back to around 540 AD when a missionary sent by the Byzantine empire arrived in non-Arab Nobatia establishing Christianity. The rise of Islam three centuries later swept across the northern region which is primarily Arab. Islamic control continued into the 1800s. In 1890 Britain attempted to take control of the region. In the process they divided the country into north and south administrations and prevented migration from either region. This reduced the incidence of tropical diseases such as malaria that decimated their ranks. Islam continued to flourish in the North and Christianity in the South.



- North Sudan
- Darfur
- Eastern Front
- South Sudan (2011 Ref.)
- Abyei
- South Kordofan and Blue Nile

In 1956 Britain, Egypt who fought alongside Sudan for their independence, and the people of Sudan signed a treaty guaranteeing the independence of The Sudan. From that time to the present the region has been in a state of civil war. Military regimes favoring Islamic-oriented governments have dominated national politics.



Sudan was embroiled in two prolonged civil wars during most of the remainder of the 20th century. The first civil war ended in 1972 but broke out again in 1983. The second war and famine-related effects resulted in more than four million people displaced and, according to rebel estimates, more than two million deaths over a period of two decades. In 1989 a bloodless coup ousted the unstable coalition government and instituted Islamic legal rule over the region. Sharia Law was imposed in the late 20th century.

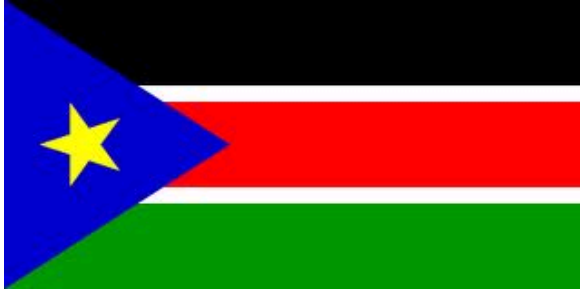
Peace talks gained momentum in 2002-04 with the signing of several accords. The final North/South Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), signed in January 2005, granted the southern rebels autonomy for six years followed by a referendum on independence for Southern Sudan. The referendum was held in January 2011 and indicated overwhelming support for independence.

A separate conflict, which broke out in the western region of Darfur in 2003, has displaced nearly two million people and caused an estimated 200,000 to 400,000 deaths. The UN took command of the Darfur peacekeeping operation from the African Union on 31 December 2007. As of early 2009, peacekeeping troops were struggling to stabilize the situation, which has become increasingly regional in scope and has brought instability to eastern Chad. Sudan also has faced large refugee influxes from neighboring countries primarily Ethiopia and Chad. Armed conflict, poor transport infrastructure, and lack of government support have chronically obstructed the provision of humanitarian assistance to affected populations. (*Wikipedia & CIA Fact Book*)

The referendum that will take effect in July 2011 will ostensibly alleviate the conflict between the North and South. Historically however Northern Sudan has continued its depredations attempting to assimilate the South through war and starvation. In the interim there will be a new entity albeit possibly short lived. Work them when you can!



MORE RUMORS ON THE BAND



Southern Sudan DXpedition

The Intrepid-DX Group and the DX Friends have combined efforts to announce our next DXpedition, to the newly created country of Southern Sudan, to take place after July 9th 2011.

The Intrepid-DX Group is the group which brought you the 2010 YI9PSE, IRAQ DXpedition. The DX Friends have brought you the 2006 S01R DXpedition to Western Sahara, the 2008 DXpedition to Rwanda as 9X0R, the 2009 DXpedition to Western Sahara as S04R, the 2010 DXpedition to Palestine as E4X and the 2010 DXpedition to San Marino as T70A.

Once again, ICOM America has agreed to be Global Radio Sponsor, while ACOM-K1LZ has agreed to provide the venerable ACOM amplifiers for this operation.

It is hoped that the callsign ST0DX will be issued this next week following our meeting with the Government of Southern Sudan Mission in America.

As with previous DXpeditions, this will be a major effort, with a target of more than 150,000 QSOs. There will be up to ten stations on the air, using amplifiers along with high performance beams and vertical dipole arrays, 24 hours a day, for almost three weeks.

Our primary objective is to activate Southern Sudan with a view to giving as many DXers as possible a first contact with this new DXCC entity and, as a secondary objective, to give as many band-slots as possible.

We will soon be seeking contributions from sponsors to help defray the very significant logistics costs of this DXpedition. For example, there is limited electricity in Southern Sudan so generators will have to be shipped.

Details of how to donate will appear on our website which will be live very soon. PayPal donations may be made directly via the site. All donations of \$10 USD or more will be acknowledged.

The logos of all DX clubs etc which have helped to sponsor the DXpedition will be shown on the QSL card, as will the names and callsigns of those who make an individual contribution of \$100 USD or more.

This first Press Release is intended mainly to alert you to our upcoming DXpedition. More information will be available soon via our website.

Thank you,
The Intrepid-DX Group and The DX Friends.

Our own member and DXpeditioner extraordinaire, N6OX, is on the team! Bob, put me in your suitcase! Check out the website: <http://www.dxfriends.com/SouthernSudan2011/>

DX ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Celebrate the Successes of Our Fellow Members!

Updates

No updates were received since the last BULLETin!

Remember to Send in Your Updated Standings

Since there will be two more countries added to the deleted list and four new entities added to the DXCC list it seems like we should be busy updating the DXCC standings. Be sure to send them in! Thanks to those who already submitted!

SCDXC WAZ and DXCC Standings (N6RV)

The first of the two large numbers represent the number of confirmed zones on the 9 HF bands 160-10 (less 60 meters). The next column contain the following codes:

M **Mixed**
P **Phone**
C **CW**
R **RTTY**
5 **5 Band**

If you have any information to post please email me:

N6RV@SCDXC.ORG

For Sale

Have something for sale? We will list it here for you!

WAZ STANDINGS

	9B / 5B	Awards
EU7SA	355 / 200	M/5
N6AW	355 / 200	M/P/C/5
WA5VGI	352 / 200	M/P/C/5
W6VX	352 / 199	
K6FG	345 / 196	M/P/C/R/5
W6SR	342 / 200	M/P/C//5
W8DX	339 / 200	M/5
K6YUI	337 / 200	M/P/C/R/5
W6YOO	303 / 200	M/P/C/5
K6YRA	280 / 200	P/5
KC6X	278 / 200	M/C/5
N6RV	268 / 183	M/P/C
K6LD	271 / 172	M/P
KR6C	264 / 166	M/C
KJ6Y	261 / 172	
WD6L	248 / 200	M/P/5
K6SY	246 / 173	P
K6GXO	227 / 193	M
AD6KQ	226 / 164	
N6OU	220 / 200	M/5
N6DHZ	214 / 160	P
KH6DX/m	210 / 184	
NS6C	/ 198	
N6MXU	155 / 193	
K2PLF	191 / 191	
K6KII	191 / 177	M
W6IRD	181 / 147	M/P
W6NRQ	180 / 147	M/P
K6IRD	154 / 126	M/P
WA6BOB	152 / 136	M
K6IRA	118 / 102	
W3SE	102 / 112	
K6VC	96 / 96	P
W6EA	92 / 86	
N6VNI	86 / 64	
KA6TTV	82 / 67	
N6UC	78 / 78	M
N6GIL	49 / 43	
W6DCK	40 / 40	P
WB6PSY	40 / 40	P
K6JW	40 / 40	M/P
KT6LA	40 / 40	
K6YR	39 / 39	
NZ6L	36 / 36	
N6HE	35 / 35	
W4EF	29 /	
N6AWD		M
N6HC		M/P/C
KB6KTV		P
W6OES		M
K8RD		C
K6UNR	/ 200	M/P/5

DXCC STANDINGS

	TOT / CUR
K6KII	382 / 338
JA1BK	377 / 338
K6YRA	372 / 338
K6EXO	370 / 338
N6UC	365 / 338
K6YUI	360 / 338
NS6C	355 / 338
N6AW	355 / 337
W6HT	358 / 338
W6SR	353 / 338
K6IPV	353 / 334
WA6WZO	352 / 338
K8RD	351 / 338
K6FG	351 / 338
K5KT	350 / 338
K6GXO	350 / 338
K2PLF	349 / 338
N6RV	349 / 336
W8DX	348 / 338
W6OM	347 / 337
W6AUG	345 / 338
KC6X	344 / 337
W6YOO	344 / 334
W6OES	344 / 329
W6KK	343 / 338
W6VX	343 / 338
N6AWD	343 / 336
K6LD	343 / 338
W6DCK	342 / 336
WA5VGI	342 / 336
WB6PSY	342 / 333
N6QQ	340 / 337
EU7SA	340 / 336
KB6KTV	340 / 335
KR6C	338 / 335
N6HC	338 / 333
N6OU	334 / 329
N6HY	333 / 329
AD6KQ	328 / 328
W6IRD	327 / 324
K6UNR	333 / 332
W6QE	332 / 324
KM6HB	328 / 325
KJ6Y	327 / 323
K2IXQ	324 / 325
K6SY	312 / 310
WD6L	295 / 292
W6HB	291 / 285
N6DHZ	286 / 284
W6NRQ	284 / 284
N7CQQ	268 / 266
N6MXU	267 / 265
K6JW	253 / 251
K6DJ	251 / 251
K6YR	244 / 244
K6GEP	239 / 226
K6HCJ	235 / 235
K6IRD	235 / 235
K6GEP	229 / 226
K6VC	227 / 227
N6VNI	206 / 206
KT6LA	202 / 202
WA6BOB	202 / 198
N6HE	152 / 147
KA6TTV	145 / 145
K6OGO	142 / 142
W6EA	138 / 138
W6VWV	134 / 134
W4EF	132 / 132
K6LX	125 / 125
WA6NOL	112 / 111
NZ6L	27 / 27

SPURIOUS OUTPUTS

Comments, Announcements, and Interesting Tid-Bits Submitted by Members

The New DXers Handbook (W6HB)

Doug has found a great resource for new DXers written by Bryce Anderson, K7UA of the Utah DX Association. I will include the link below in future newsletters at the bottom of the Vice Presidents page. Thanks Doug for bringing this valuable handbook to our attention!

http://www.udxa.org/attachments/148_New_DXers_Handbook.pdf

A Great Article on Ham Radio (K2IXQ, W6HB, W6NRQ)

Several members have sent in comments on an article in Wired Magazine on amateur radio and how it has survived through the ever accelerating technological changes over the past century. You can read the article at the website below. Thanks everyone for calling this to our attention!

<http://www.wired.com/epicenter/2011/02/ham-radio-tweets/all/>

Hugh Allen (W6MFC) Estate Sale

Members interested in going to Hugh Allen's Estate Sale in March can go to Michelle's Estate Sales for tickets; <http://www.michellesestatesales.com/> (686)-677-0304 (email: Info@MichellesEstateSales.com). Hugh had lots of radio equipment, including a Henry amplifier. There also are 2 towers on his property. One of the towers is an LM-470 installed in 1984 (with permits) and the other is a W-51 feet installed in 1971. Buyer must remove them. Anyone can also contact Lenore Sussman, Hughes daughter, direct before the sale at Silaslen@gmail.com.



Phil Getz (N6ZZ) Photos (N6AA)

Art Goddard, W6XD, put together a group of N6ZZ (SK) photos. These are pictures from various trips taken with Art and Dick over the years. Phil passed away almost 4 years ago. You can download the pictures at: <https://sizableend.com/3eee7c>

Ride Needed From Visalia to Ontario Airport (K6RV)

I am a former NCDXC President (in the 70's) and have not been to a DX convention for 30 years. I retired to Austin, TX, 6 years ago, and decided I better go back to the DX Convention one more time while I can. The reason I am writing is to ask if you would put on your reflector, or in your newsletter, that I need a ride on Sunday, April 17, after the breakfast, from Visalia to the Ontario Airport. I will gladly pay my way with a tank of gas. You probably will have a lot of people who will be going by the Ontario airport on their way home. K6RV@earthlink.com

SPURIOUS OUTPUTS

HR607 = We Lose 420 - 440 MHz! (WU6D)

I am sure that you have heard about this bill that is in Congress as we speak. We need to encourage our membership to read HR607 Bill and of course make their own choice of what they want to do. But here is some information sent to me by HQ. If you could send to all them members it would be appreciated. Maybe in this upcoming Newsletter and you can state it is from me. Thanks Carl WU6D – Orange Section Manager

As you may have read, Rep. Peter King (R-NY) has introduced the "Broadband for First Responders Act of 2011" and the bill has been assigned HR 607 as its number. The full story about the Bill's introduction can be found on the ARRL web at

<http://www.arrl.org/news/spectrum-management-bill-threatens-amateur-frequencies>

As you will read, while the ARRL supports spectrum for the Public Safety needs, we oppose HR 607 in its current form because of the inclusion of the 420-440 MHz spectrum (most of the Amateur 70-cm UHF allocation) as part of a spectrum swap.

At the request of ARRL President Kay Craigie, N3KN, we are asking ARRL members to contact their local Representative asking them to oppose HR 607 in its current form. Members should be directed to <http://www.arrl.org/sample-letters> for resources tools to assist them in their letter writing. These include:

- A sample letter opposing HR 607 in its current form

- A link to the ARRL Webpage that gives the ARRL member the contact information for their Members of Congress

- A link to information sending their letters to our Washington lobbyist to hand-deliver to Capitol Hill

A couple of key points to remember when discussing our opposition to HR 607:

We understand and support the principle that Public Safety and First responders should have the D-Block frequencies.

Our opposition to the bill stems from the inclusion of the 420-440 MHz Amateur allocation as part of the proposed "frequency swap".

HK6R Contest Station (N6RV)

In the ARRL CW DX contest several HK stations were present on 80 - 10 meters. All of them were very good operators with loud signals and capable of copying very weak stations. Later that week I heard one of the stations, Jorge, HK6R, on 15 meters. He had the loudest signal I have heard in a long time. Jorge indicated that they were just setting up a multi - multi contest station. His problem was operators. There were enough to do a single op single band for each band but not multi-multi. Anybody interested? Visit their website. They are really hitting hard! <http://dxarc.org/>

TOP TEN MOST WANTED COUNTRIES

North America West Coast

#8 60 / T5 Somalia

Somalia

This week four Americans and their vessel were seized by Somali pirates. They were executed by the captors who were either killed or captured by US Naval personnel. Three of the Americans were hams, KF6RVB, K9ESO, and KE7IIV. The boat was boarded off of Oman several miles to the northeast and was being taken to the Puntland autonomous region known for its pirate havens.

Somalia is located on a peninsula bounded by the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean. This region has been inhabited well into prehistoric times. Cave paintings dating as far back as 9000 BCE have been found in northern Somalia. Ancient ruins litter the land giving rise to the belief that a sophisticated civilization had been established there. Trade was conducted dating back to 2000 BCE. History also speaks of a tall race that lived in the region known for their inordinate life span, well over 100 years. These people are believed to be the first to domesticate the camel. Apparently the inhabitants of Somalia were mariners very early on. In fact Rome placed a navy in the region to curb piracy. In the seventh century early followers of Islam who suffered persecution fled to Somalia. Mogadishu, the modern day capital, became the hub of Islam in Eastern Africa.

The Berbers, the ancestors of modern Somalians, took over Mogadishu in 1150 AD. For the most part both Christians and Muslims lived in harmony in the region. During the reign of the Ifat empire this harmony was stressed when the Ifat army conquered the Shoa Kingdom in 1270 AD. After several bloody wars the Christians known as the Solomonids subdued the Muslim Ifatities. Battles over the territory ensued for centuries. The last army to hold the region was the Dervish who maintained control until the early 20th century. Britain defeated the Dervish in 1920. Italy became the protector of the region in 1923. With the rise of Fascism in Italy the treaties were dissolved and Somaliland came under the direct rule of Italy. Italy attempted to subdue the whole region including Ethiopia and Eritrea. Britain was in control of those regions at the time. It should be noted that the modern Djibouti located on the Gulf of Aden just north of Somalia was a department of France, called French Somaliland, until the late mid twentieth century.

WWII brought the end to Italian control. Most of the region came under British control however many of the Italians were allowed to remain and Italy maintained a small protectorate, Italian Somaliland. An attempt was made at introducing democracy and Britain began to relax its hold on the region. They withdrew in 1960 to allow its protectorate to join with Italian Somaliland and form the new nation of Somalia. In 1969, a coup headed by Mohamed Said Barre ushered in an authoritarian socialist rule characterized by the persecution, jailing and torture of political opponents and dissidents. After the regime's collapse early in 1991, Somalia descended into turmoil, factional fighting, and anarchy. In May 1991, northern clans declared an independent Republic of Somaliland that now includes the administrative regions of Awdal, Woqooyi Galbeed, Togdheer, Sanaag, and Sool. Although not recognized by any government, this entity has maintained a stable existence and continues efforts to establish a constitutional democracy, including holding municipal, parliamentary, and presidential elections.



The regions of Bari, Nugaal, and northern Mudug comprise a neighboring semi-autonomous state of Puntland, which has been self-governing since 1998 but does not aim at independence; it has also made strides toward reconstructing a legitimate, representative government but has suffered some civil strife. Puntland disputes its border with Somaliland as it also claims portions of eastern Sool and Sanaag.



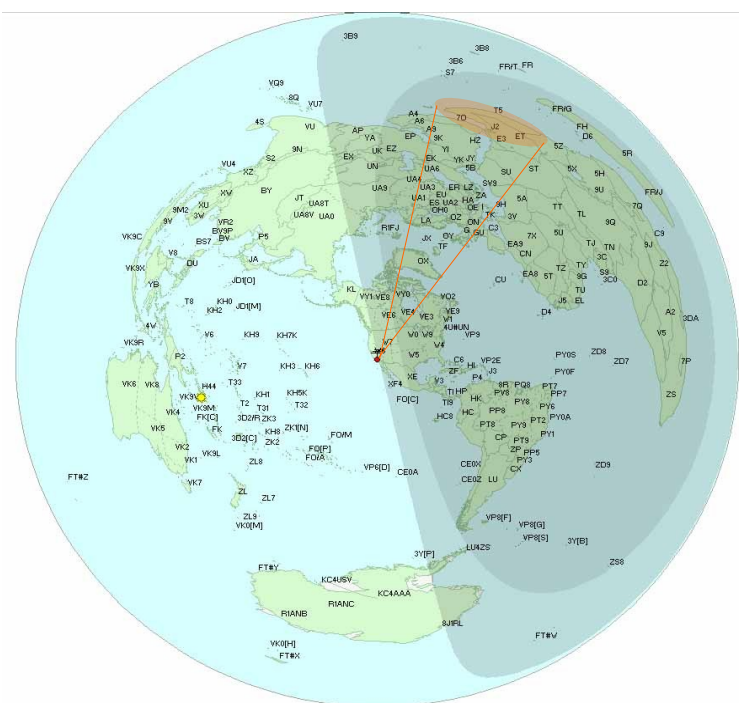
Beginning in 1993, a two-year UN humanitarian effort (primarily in the south) was able to alleviate famine conditions, but when the UN withdrew in 1995, having suffered significant casualties, order still had not been restored. In 2000, the Somalia National Peace Conference (SNPC) held in Djibouti resulted in the formation of an interim government, known as the Transitional National Government (TNG). When the TNG failed to establish adequate security or governing institutions, the Government of Kenya, under the auspices of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), led a subsequent peace process that concluded in October 2004 with the election of Abdullahi Yusuf Ahmed as President of a second interim government, known as the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of the Somali Republic. The TFG included a 275-member parliamentary body, known as the Transitional Federal Parliament (TFP). President Yusuf resigned late in 2008 while United Nations-sponsored talks between the TFG and the opposition Alliance for the Re-Liberation of Somalia (ARS) were underway in Djibouti. In January 2009, following the creation of a TFG-ARS unity government, Ethiopian military forces, which had entered Somalia in December 2006 to support the TFG in the face of advances by the opposition Islamic Courts Union (ICU), withdrew from the country. The TFP was increased to 550 seats with the addition of 200 ARS and 75 civil society members of parliament. The expanded parliament elected Sheikh Sharif Sheikh Ahmed, the former CIC and ARS chairman as president on 31 January 2009, in Djibouti. Subsequently, President Sharif appointed Omar Abdirashid Ali Sharmarke, son of a former president of Somalia, as prime minister on 13 February 2009. Sharmarke resigned in September 2010 and was replaced by Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed, aka Farmajo, a dual US-Somali citizen that lived in the United States from 1985 until his return to Somalia in October 2010. The creation of the TFG was based on the Transitional Federal Charter (TFC), which outlines a five-year mandate leading to the establishment of a new Somali constitution and a transition to a representative government following national elections. However, in January 2009 the TFP amended the TFC to extend TFG's mandate until 2011. *(From CIA Fact Book)*

Amateur Radio

As can be seen by the map to the right Somalia is another outlier for those of us living on the West Coast and the short path is through the auroral zone. Note that six of the top ten are in the same neighborhood and a seventh is again on the edge of our azimuth map.

Deleted Countries

It seemed that Somalia was not well represented in the early years of amateur radio until we recall that two deleted countries, British Somaliland, and Italian Somaliland, merged to form Somalia on July 1, 1960. The earliest call sign for British Somaliland was MD4BPC of the British Royal Signal Corp. Italian Somaliland was not far behind with the I5 prefix.



British Somaliland

Britain greatly influenced the northern region. British colonies were established well before amateur radio came into its own. Both WWI and WWII found radiomen operating from that region. It is no wonder that the northern autonomous regions still stand apart.



British Somaliland Activity (VQ6)		
Date	Call Sign	Operators
9/1952	VQ6MY	
9/1955	VQ6LQ	
9/1955	VQ6ST	
9/1958	VQ6AB	
9/199	VQ6LQ	
2/1960	VQ6NG	
6/1960	VQ6GM	
3/1960	MS4UU	

Italian Somaliland

Italian Somaliland enveloped the Indian Ocean coast of modern day Somalia. As mentioned Italy also annexed Ethiopia and Eritrea before WWII and lost it after the war. Italy sent many of its “undesirables” to this region much like England did with Australia. Of course not all of the Italians there were hard cases as one of the stories below relates. Furthermore there appears to have been a large number who were hams. That indicates that there were several who were a cut above!



Italian Somaliland Activity (I5)		
Date	Call Sign	Operators
6/1950	MS4FM	
8/1951	I5ZC	
9/1953	I5LV	
8/1956	I5RAM	
10/1958	I5FL	
10/1958	I5LM	
1/1959	I5GN	
3/1960	MS4UU	

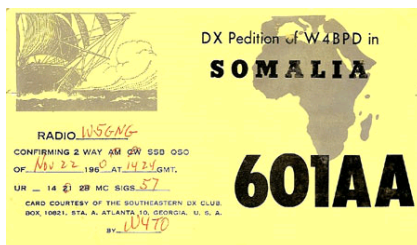


Amateur Radio from Somalia

Just as quickly as the keys went silent on the two deleted countries amateur radio began from the newly formed Somalia. Many operations have occurred over the past 50 years. Most of them were singular efforts by hams working in the country. As you will see most of these were US personnel on various aid missions. Clean water, food and any infrastructure are a scarcity in this region. It seems that even with aid the area tends to revert back to a simpler state. Given there are no natural resources it is amazing that you find people living there. There are few residents in the Sahara desert or on the coast of other countries like Namibia.

A few DXpeditions have occurred in recent years. Hopefully the region will become stable and assimilate some of the better parts of modern society. Technology would make their lives so much better. In a world where the information is available to make a better life it is still amazing that people do not take advantage of it. We only have to look in our own backyard to see what people are willing to accept versus applying a little effort for so much gain. In any event there are several Italians who still are willing to frequent the area and I am sure other US and European hams would go when the region ever becomes stable. You could take a trip like Gus Browning did and hit six of the most wanted countries in one run. Now that would be a DXpedition everyone would support. Of course going to Somalia and Yemen in one shot while picking up all the French possession islands would not be five star type event. It might be Mission Impossible or better yet Survivor: The Middle East.

601AA Gus Browning (W4BPD)



The first to activate this desolate region was Gus Browning, W4BPD. There was a little article about his adventure traveling by bus through Kenya on the way to Mogadishu. He set up two verticals on the roof of a hotel and operated from an air conditioned room. Again the risks taken by adventurous hams back then is a story worth telling. He encountered many animals and natives along the way. He did manage to find a coke or two (his trademark drink) at a few stops. Gus activated several countries in East Africa at a time when

few ventured in the region. This was an extension of a DXpedition with W0AIW, W0MAF, and W0UQV. They operated from Seychelles and attempted to operate from the now deleted Aldabra. When the weather forced the group to return to Seychelles everyone but Gus went home. Gus traveled alone through the northern part of East Africa. He operated from French Somaliland, FL9 (now Djibouti), and the island country of Zanzibar, VQ1A, now deleted.

Somalia Activity (60 / T5)		
Date	Call Sign	Operators
11/1960	601AA	W4BPD
12/1960	602GM	
6/1961	600MT	
10/1964	601ND	ND4AA
2/1969	606BW	K4JLD
1/1966	601GB	
11/1980	600DX	I2YDX
11/1980	600DX	I2YDX
8/1988	T5GG	
3/1989	T5YD	F6FYD
1/1989	6089YD	F6FYD
6/1990	601YD/JI	F6FYD
1/1992	T53UN	WB8WHO
2/1993	T5/N9OQS	N9OQS
6/1993	DI1VJ/T5	DL1VJ (VK2IA)
3/1994	T5YOU	WA6YOU
1/1994	T5AR	5R8FU
1/1999	601Z	DJ9ZB
1/1999	601X	DJ6SI
6/2001	T5X T5W	DJ6SI DL1QW
5/2004	600W	DJ1QW
5/2004	600X	DJ6SI
9/2004	600JT	VA6JWT
2/2005	600CW	I2SYB IK2DIA IK2WXV IK1PMR I25BRW
1/2006	600N	I1HJT I2YSB IK1AOD IK1HJS IK2DIA IK2CIO IK2CKR

602GM Don Bushe

Not much is said about Don on the internet. He was active from several countries in that region. His prior call signs indicate he was from Great Britain. Possibly he worked for the British Embassy. Note that the QTH is Berbera on the Gulf of Aden which was in the former British Somaliland. The time of his operation was the same year that Somalia became a unified country. Possibly he was there to facilitate the transition.

6 0 2 G M
DON BUSHE
P. O. BOX 164, BERBERA, SOMALI REPUBLIC, E. A.

Confirms QSO with W8UAS on 14 21, 28 Mc/s
at 0722 hrs on 13-12-60 Ur A 15 3 Sigs
were R...5...S...7...T...9...Tks QSO
Ur QSL was/will be appreciated 73's DON
Ex:—GM3BYM, SU1GM, G3BYM, VQ6GM



600MT Mauro Tessieri

Again not much said about this operation. Norm, 6O1ND, does mention him in the article below. From the station description, 25 watts to a long wire, he probably did not get out all that well. Mogadishu was the capital of Italian Somaliland. It was well developed and remained a major center until it was sacked in the 1990s. The residents took everything that was not nailed down. They pulled out all the copper wire and sold it for scrap.

MOGADISCIO **SOMALI REPUBLIC** P. O. Box 397

601MT
OP.: "MAURO" TESSIERI

RADIO: <u>SP2JS</u>	CONFIRMING QSO ON <u>6-5-61</u>	GMT <u>19.55</u>	RST <u>579</u>	ORG <u>14</u> Mc/s	A1 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	QSL PSE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
TRANSMITTER SELOSO 210 TR - 25 W FINAL		RECEIVER EDDYSTONE 750				
ANT: SINGLE WIRE FED DIPOLE		Op: <u>Mauro</u>				

6O1ND Norman Duxbury (ND4AA)

I emailed Norm requesting a short description of his experiences in Somalia. He responded with the following:

I'm just going to write things down as I think of them. Please excuse the lack of organization.

I was 6O1ND from 1961-1963. Somalia had just gained independence from Great Britain and Italy in 1960, so the attitude then by the new government was hopeful and optimistic. This was not to last. As the years passed, reality sank in. Somalia has no known resources -- it is a desert colony at the equator on the Indian Ocean, with extremely high unemployment. It was an easy target for Al Qaeda and they walked right in. Now, Somalia serves as a base for their only successful enterprise to date: international seaborne piracy.



The Somalis (not Somalians, as I have read in some newspaper articles) are physically attractive people. They are Africans who have interbred with Arabs, resulting in lighter complexions and finer facial features. I found them to be intelligent and honest -- but that was many years ago, and people are shaped by their environment.

Amateur radio back then was handled by the Somali Department of Post and Telecommunications. One had simply to request a license. I asked for 6O1AA, but Gus Browning had beaten me to it a few months earlier when he passed through. I brought a small 60 Watt rig along with me, but I soon picked up a 200W Viking Valiant from "Tuffy" Adams, 6O1TUF, an oil company employee from Texas. Tuffy had no previous license. Propagation was great then, so I had no problem stirring up activity with my rooftop groundplane antennas. The Catholic Mission in Mogadiscio operated a printing school for the locals, so it was a good source for QSL printing. Official Somali Government communications were in the Italian language; the Somali language did not have a written form at that time.

The former Italian Somaliland was a place where Italy exiled Italians they found undesirable. Not all of them were thugs -- far from it. I met and found a good friend who worked in the post office. His name was Mauro Tessieri, 6O1MT. Mauro was a good and kind man whose job was to prepare First Day Covers, and other philatelic items for stamp collectors. Somalia had many desirable stamp series, especially one which featured wild animals. Mauro was an avid ham. His rig was a 20W Geloso and a receiver which even I couldn't identify (but probably of Italian vintage). He would sit for hours, grinding out QSOs using his J38 key, with his XYL Nelda hovering over him.

Other hams in Mogadiscio were Woody Franklin, 6O1WF, an American USAID employee who had a complete Hallicrafters outfit, including kW amp and 3 el beam. Woody operated exclusively SSB so we never conflicted on the bands. Another one of the locals was Livio Balboni, 6O1LV, who for one reason or other I never met in person. Livio was my only Italian Somaliland QSO from my home QTH at K4CTY before I left. Livio's call then was I5LV.

Another friend in Mogadiscio was Klaus Homfeldt. Klaus was a German businessman whose last post was Tripoli, Libya, where he had a 5A1 callsign. He soon became 6O1KH. Klaus and I would go on "field day" to the site of the unused Radio Mogadiscio rhombic antenna where we would make a few connections and put out a "real signal." The rhombic was mounted on four 30m towers and beamed on Rome and beyond to the USA.

I was a State Department employee and a technical officer at the American Embassy in Mogadiscio (now Mogadishu). One of my jobs was daily transmission and reception of cables with the State Department in Washington DC and other embassies and consulates worldwide. This was one of our most backward embassies (it was thrown together hastily after independence), and all communications were handled via CW! I was the only one there who knew Morse, so every word sent and received was via my W9TO keyer and Underwood "mill." By the time I got home at night, I had done plenty of CW during the day at work, but still worked several hours on the air many nights passing out QSOs.

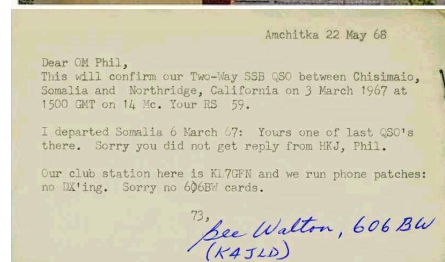
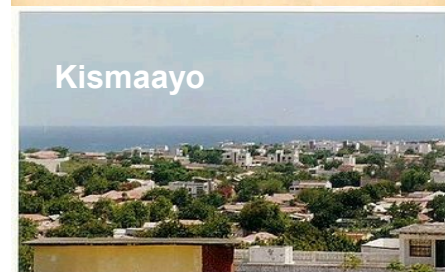
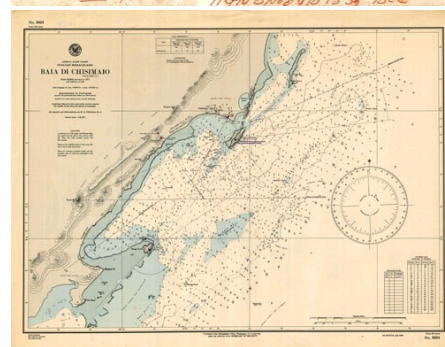
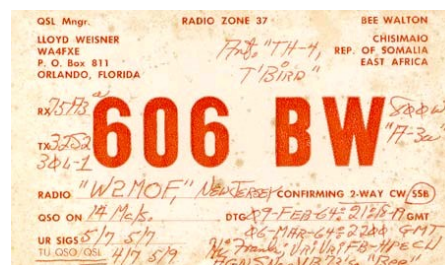
Well, Bill, that's what comes to mind on the subject of Somalia. I hope you find some use for it. *(Boy did I ! Thanks so much Norm!)*

6O6BW Bertrand Walton (K4JLD)

Bee operated in 1967 from Chisimaio, a port town at the mouth of the Jubba River in the southeast corner of Somalia near Kenya. As the western name implies the town was occupied by the Italians. Originally the city was named Kismaayo and was founded by the Sultan of Zanzibar in 1872. It is the regional capital of the Jubbada district. The port was developed by the United States and was used to export bananas. The city also served as the training base for the Somali Air Force in the 1970s. Here is Bee's story in his own words:

The Job:

Paul Smith Construction Company out of Tampa, Florida with offices in Orlando was awarded a contract by USAID for Chisimaio. The job was to build a one-mile concrete access road from mainland Chisimaio to Serpenti Island; also to build a wharf, a breakwater and dredge the harbor deep enough for ocean-going ships to enter. The construction was monitored and overseen by the US Army Corps of Engineers.



Purpose of job:

At the time, bananas were the only export from Somalia. The access road, wharf and mole area and the deep-water harbor were intended to aid exportation. The Germans were building a paved road from Mogadishu to Chisimaio. The Russians built a meat packing plant near Chisimaio in hopes that the Somalia nomads would sell some of their cattle, to be canned and exported. In reality, the nomads would not part with their cattle, and, I always thought the Russians used the meat packing plant as a tracking station. The Russians never let anyone inside their compound, although we did socialize with them occasionally.

Radio:

I was on the job from October 1963 through March 1967. My main job was communications technician and radio operator. On the commercial radio side, communications were provided for the Corps of Engineers to USAID in Mogadishu and to Corps of Engineers in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia six days a week. Amateur Radio as 6O6BW was a lot different from K4JLD back in Winter Park, Florida. The equipment was all Collins: two 75S-3A receivers, a 32S-2 exciter, one 30L-1 and one 30S-1 amplifiers. Antennas were a TH-4 tribander for 10, 15 and 20M and dipoles for 80 and 40M. Tower was a 60-foot crank-up. Station grounding terminated in the Indian Ocean. I made about 65,000 contacts on the Ham bands. QSL manager was W4HKJ (SK) and I. Some of the last contacts on February 18, 1967 were W6JZP, W6DLN, WA6QGW, W6GQK, W6WX, W6ANN, WB6IQI, WB6EQV, W6CAE, W6RW, W6ISQ, W6AGO, etc. These were 15M CW QSO's. I was using 100 watts. My other duties included safety officer, PX operator and photographer.

Family:

My wife, Phyllis, and our three children joined me in Chisimaio in May of 1965 and stayed 16 months leaving in late August 1966. David was 9, Liz was 6 and Dale was 4 years old. Because there were no English speaking schools in the area, they all had to go home to enter school. The children learned a great amount of knowledge from experiences in Somalia.

People of Somalia:

As you know, the Somalia people are Muslim. The 500 or so workers on our job prayed every day at 3 PM. Friday is their Sabbath so we did not work on Friday but did work on Sunday. I found the people to be handsome and friendly and accepted the Americans without question. They did like our money!

Experiences:

Serpenti Island was used as a Submarine refueling station for the Nazis during WWII. The three fuel reservoirs are about 50 feet deep and about 50 feet in diameter. We used them to hang game heads to rot to recover the horns. We found many caves, tunnels ammunition bunkers.

A Russian merchant ship in distress entered the harbor (before dredging) by flashlight signaling by the shipboard operator and me. The ship crew had killed the Captain; his wife took command and brought the vessel in safely. The Somalia authorities resolved the issue.

After the wharf and dredging were completed, the first ship to dock was a US Navy Destroyer. To our immense delight, the captain maneuvered the ship expertly to our newly built wharf. All the sailors from the ship and most of us had a big party on the beach. A good time was had by all.

The company aircraft was a Cessna 180 and was used to transport people and fresh food from Mombasa, Kenya to Chisimaio. The pilot had to buzz the Island so we could drive down to the airstrip to shoo the goats away in order for the plane to land safely. One of our pilots said if he ever crash-landed in the bush, that his survival kit was a carton of cigarettes and a fifth of whiskey.

All in all the Somalia experience was unique.

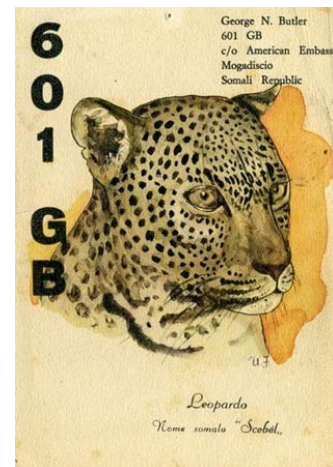
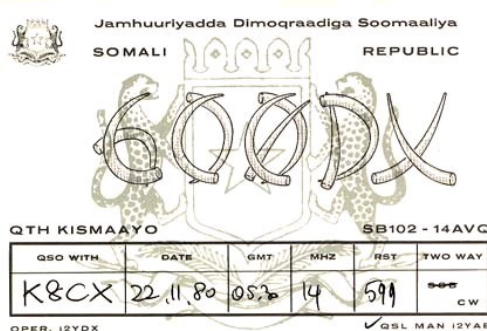
Bee Walton, K4JLD (ex 6O6BW. February 2011). (*Thanks Bee for the wonderful insight into this country!*)

601GB George Butler

George worked at the American Embassy in Mogadishu. He operated from there in 1966. Not much more than that.

600DX Gasperin De Giuseppe

Gasperin operated from Kismaayo in 1980. There are 600DX spots that go out to 2003 and DJ6SI is noted as the QSL manager for the later contacts. The Somalia Amateur website confirms that the call sign was reissued to Baldur. No other information exists on line.



T5GG Giuliano Ghioni

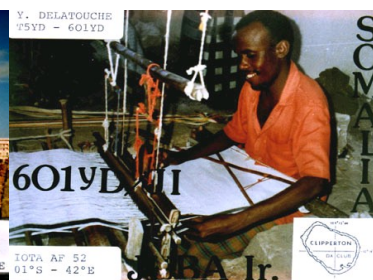
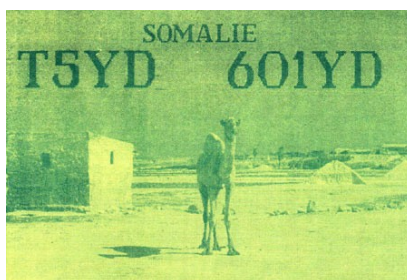
Giuliano operated from Mogadishu in 1988. He operated from various countries over the years (T5, TJ, 5N, 5A). IK2EGL on his website also claims to have operated from Mogadishu with this call sign. Other than that... nada!

SOMALIA
MOGADISCIO
T5GG

QSO WITH	DATE	GMT	MHZ	RST	2WAY
10 HUB	17-8-88	13:30	28	S-P	SSB
12MGP QSL MANAGER PSE QSL TNX <i>Mario</i> ⁷³ Giuliano Ghioni P.O. BOX B 62 MOGADISCIO					

T5YD Yannick Delatouche (F6FYD)

Yannick still holds this call sign. One site indicates there was an operation in 1989 to 1990 using this call sign. Not much else is said. Sometimes you get the feeling hams do not write much!



T53UN Kent Phillips (WB8WHO)

Kent Phillips, WB8HWO (also 5B4AAL) operated from Mogadishu in 1992 and 1993. He showed up regularly on the 14265 DX net. I contacted Kent and received the following recollection:



We are really going back in time for this one. I served as a Field Service Officer of The United Nations assigned to the communications section for many years and was stationed in the middle east. When the United Nations was mandated to go to Somalia and establish the UNISOM mission I was one of the first 5 on the ground. The lead team was mandated to set in place the physical elements necessary for a fully operational UN Peace Keeping mission. A country in anarchy is a horrible experience, no water, no sewer, no electricity, no pharmacy, no food source, or food stores simply nothing except what one can barter for. Life without police fire and transportation isn't a fun experience. There were no commercial air line flights and no hotels motels or accommodations. Amateur radio played an important role in the first day of the mission. The code keys to the INMAR Sat station were missing. Amateur Radio was the only method of communicating. A quick call on 20 meters to Cyprus and a relay to HQ New York resulted in the correct code keys and a working communications system in under two hours.

There is not a lot to do when stationed in a war zone so every time I had a spare moment I worked DX from Mogadishu. I was able to find several Somali officials and was thus able to secure an

official license for the T53UN call sign. All in all I worked over 8,000 contacts and am still receiving requests for QSL Card confirmation. The low point of the operation was when automatic weapon fire hit the A3 Cushcraft. Thanks to donations from the 256 DX group a replacement antenna arrived in Nairobi and we were back on the air. My mission was achieved in 92 days and I rotated back to my duty station in Cyprus. While the world press has said a lot about the terrible conditions in Somalia I must note the Somali people were wonderful to work with and I appreciate the many great memories of new friends and the colorful "war stories" from that mission. If given a chance I would gladly return to Somalia for another round of DX.

Let me know if you need something additional or are looking for specific facts related to operating in field conditions. Things were quite hectic when I was there as the civil war was still the main activity in most of the country. *(Thanks Kent. Write down your stories. They are well worth reading!)*

T5/N9OQS Dave Brooks

Dave Brooks was also in Mogadishu in 1993 except he was ship-board. The operation did not count for DXCC credit.

DL1VJ/T5

Bern Langer operated from Jamhuuriyadda in 1993. It is accredited. I know because this is my QSL card! He also operated from several other locations and now resides in Australia. His current calls are :VK6AA, VK9AA, DL1VJ, KL2X and his expired calls are: 5T5XX (1986), 9H3VJ (1991), 9Z4VJ (1996), DL1VJ (1978-1997), DL1VJ/4X (1982), DL1VJ/6Y5 (1983), DL1VJ/LX (1979-1996), DL1VJ/TF (1983), DL1VJ/T5 (1993), DL1VJ/UG6 (1988), DL1VJ/VY1 (1983), FR/DL1VJ (1996), K6D (1996), JY8VJ (1991-1993), JY40VJ (1992), ON9CEJ (1988-1994), SO5VJ (1994), TA1KA/2 (1987), TA2ZJ (1992), TO3R (1996), VK2IA/S5 (2000), VK8VJ (1997), VK9AA/9 (2001), & ZL0ADV (1988). He seems to get around a lot! Bern was contacted and he is writing a short article about his adventures. Unfortunately it did not make it here in time. VK2IA is very active and has been worked in many contests.

T5YOU Ron Payne (WA6YOU)

Ron, WA6YOU, was active from Mogadishu 1993 and 1994. He used the call sign T5YOU and was active on a time available basis from 1800-2000z daily. Due to location constraints, his rig was an Icom 735 and a dipole antenna. Ron operated on the usual DX splits on 15/20 meters SSB. From the card he also apparently operated CW. Given the number of calls listed and the address in Fairfax one can assume he worked in some capacity for the government either in the embassy corps or as a contractor. Here is Ron's story right from the source:

First off, let me start by saying that I got licensed in 1962 in Livermore, California. I was a sophomore at Livermore High and our electronics teacher encouraged us to get our Novice licenses. He turned out about 10 - 12 hams a year and most of us ended up in electronic careers. After 2 years at Chabot College in Hayward, California, I joined the U.S. Submarine Service as a radio operator and served from '66 to '70. I used the ham station at Pearl Harbor often which was mainly for phone patches from other bases in the Pacific. Got out in 1970 and joined the Foreign Service as a Communications Technician/High Speed Morse Operator and spent the next 28 years travelling and living all over the world.

MOGADISHU, SOMALIA

T5/N9OQS

CONFIRMING QSO WITH	DAY	MONTH	YEAR	UTC	MHz	RST	MODE
U2X4V	15	2	93	2243	14	59	SSB

DAVE BROOKS

☐ PSE QSL ☒ TXN QSL

A WIMPY QSL

JAMHUURIYADDA DIMOQRAADIGA SOOMAALIYA



DL1VJ/T5

BERND LÄNGER (HSC, VHSC)



AFRICA

Greetings From

ZONE 37

MOGADISHU, SOMALIA

MINI - DX-PEDITION® 03 SEP - 08 SEP '93 & 21 FEB - 08 MAR '94

T5YOU

STATION	CONFIRMING QSO					
	DATE	GMT	MHz	RST	MODE	
GØGKH	01 MAR 94	1841	14.026	579	SSB	CW

OPERATOR:
Ronald C. Payne, WA6YOU
10203 Antietam Avenue
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
U. S. A.

73,

☐ PSE QSL ☒ TXN QSL

ex: A25/WA6YOU, DA1PA,
G4/WA6YOU, VU2YOU,
VU9YOU, VU83YOU,
9N1YOU, 9N38, OD5MX,
WA6YOU/DU2, WY6YOU.

Now a brief sketch of my overseas hamming; each country has a story to go with it which could take a page in itself. I have given numerous presentations to ham clubs in the DC metro area:

Bangkok, Thailand (1972 - 1974) No matter how much I tried I could not get a license from the Thai government.

Manila, Philippines (1974 - 1977) WA6YOU/DU2. One of the first 5 licensed in the Philippines after the reciprocal was signed in '76. (Worthy of a separate essay.)

Beirut, Lebanon (1978 - 1979) OD5MX. Application in French and Arabic, interview with a 2 star Lebanese Army General, six months to get a license, and hamming while the Syrians bombed Beirut. One of two CW ops in the whole country. Married my Lebanese girlfriend/QSL Manager. (More than worthy of a separate essay.)

New Delhi, India (1981 - 1985) VU2YOU/VU9YOU/VU83YOU. Twenty-four signatures required, six months to get a license, tea and crumpets at the PTT every Monday, shut down for 2 weeks in Oct '84 after assassination of Indira Gandhi, ham of the year for a radio rescue in the Red Sea and get this.....linear amplifiers illegal in India....must be listed on manifest as an "in-line anti-attenuation device". (Four great years and more than worthy of a separate essay.)

Kathmandu, Nepal (December 1982) 9N38 DXpedition. Set up by Rana, WB4NFO and Rusty, W6OAT. Used opportunity to honor King Birinda's 38th birthday for a DXpedition. I received 9N1YOU for 1 month. See April '83 QST.

Frankfurt, W. Germany (1985 - 1987) DA1PA. Mail in your American license with a fee to the PTT and in one month a German license came back. Did not get much hamming in due to 70% travel in Europe and Africa.

Gaborone, Botswana (1989) A25/WA6YOU. One month mini-DXpedition. Ham radio listed in the phone book under PTT. Personal meeting where a clerk took my original US License and gave me a Botswana license in less than 20 minutes. You get your US ticket back when you leave.

Now what you really wanted to hear. Enjoy!

Mogadishu, Somalia (15 August - 15 October 1993 and 26 February - 08 March 1994) Call sign: T5YOU

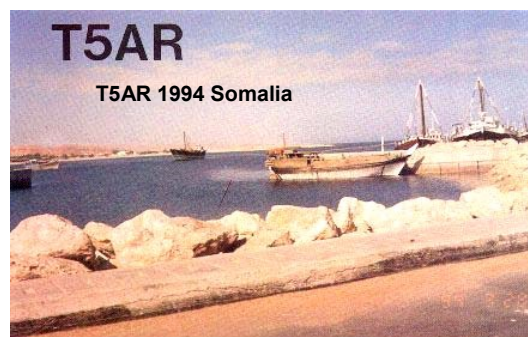
If you can remember back to 1993, we were having a bit of trouble with warlord Mohammed Farah Adid whose clan was shooting at Americans who were trying to feed the Somali people. (Google Black Hawk Down and Operation Restore Hope for further details.) Anyway, I was sent there with my usual diplomatic status in an Engineering/Technical capacity to assist the Rangers and the 10th Mountain Division in establishing communication in and around Mogadishu. I flew direct to Somalia in a C5-A super transport from Ft. Bragg, NC and was in the air for 19 1/2 hours where we in-flight refueled 3 times and the one toilet overflowed prior to landing. On arrival we were met by CNN who had a camera on everyone who marched off the plane. I was told I would not be living on the Embassy compound but instead would be berthed in a tent city 6 miles away on the beach about 300 yards from the Indian Ocean. Travel between the Embassy, Airport and my Base was by via a Huey helicopter where I would sit next to the door gunner and his 50 cal. Great fun flying with you legs hanging over the side 2000 feet up. Weather was warm with a breeze all the time off the ocean. Got a 20 foot camouflage support pole from the Marines and erected an inverted-Vee antenna for

20 meters. Rig was my own IC-735 with power supply, matching tuner, speed key, headphones, log book, and a 2 KW Honda generator. (We bought beer from the Italian soldiers "next door"...HA!) There was no central government at the time (still none) so I just came on the air as WA6YOU/T5. I had been operating a few hours when a European ham working with the Red Cross broke in and told me to just sign T5YOU. He said when you get home, send a Xerox of your passport and State Department orders to the ARRL and they will sanctify it....they did! The DX was fantastic and would hang around 14.195 and 14.025 in my spare time. (We worked 7 day weeks with 12 hour days but I always found time to get on the air during "prime-time".) Usually just giving my call would bring down the tent. Worked 140 countries and 48 states. Props were great to the U.S. and they started coming in at around 1400 Mog time. What is always fun is to answer a CQ with a super DX call sign and listen to the guy on the other end have a "radio heart attack". Japan, Europe and the U.S. provided me with many pages of log entries and even today I get an occasional card from someone who needs T5. I left after Black Hawk Down through Nairobi and London via British Air.

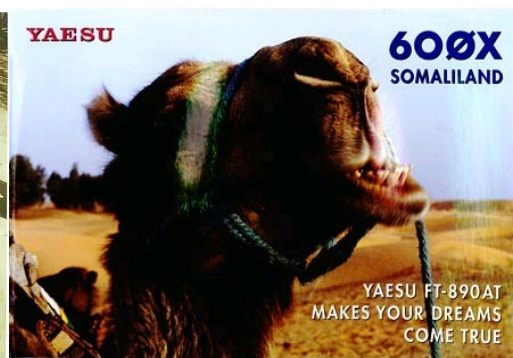
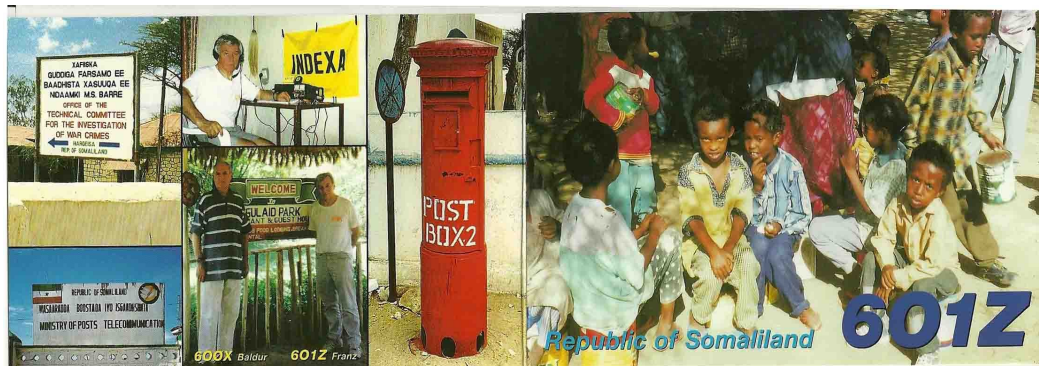
I returned in February of '94 and this time I flew commercial United Air to London and then British Air to Nairobi. From there took a "charter" into Mog. This time I stayed in a very nice trailer at the U.S. Embassy compound which was a bit safer than the beach. Got another camouflage pole and set up the same station minus the Honda generator since we had 120 V. Kept my roommate up many nights and gave out T5 to another logbook full of hams. Left a few days later on March 8th. I have not returned to Africa since. *(Thanks Ron. This is a great article! You too must write your memoirs. It would make great reading!)*

T5AR Ake Rosvall (5R8FU)

T5AR,Ake, was active between August 1994 and end of January 1995 He is now 5R8FU active in Madagascar



600X (Baldur Drobica, DJ6SI) 601Z (Franz Langer, DJ9ZB)



Two Honorary SCDXC members, Baldur, DJ6SI, and Franz, DJ9ZB, operated from Hargeiza, Somaliland for 7 days as 600X and 601Z. Somaliland declared independence from Somalia on 18 May, 1991 but was not recognized by any other country. ARRL DXCC Manager, NC1L, Bill Moore, released the following in 2004. "Effective immediately, the ARRL DXCC Branch will accept QSLs for operation taking place in the Somaliland (northwestern Somalia) and Puntland (northeastern Somalia) autonomous areas as well as the southern and central areas of Somalia. Operations possessing written permission from any recognized authority that is acknowledged to be in control of a particular region will be accredited. These QSLs will count for the Somali Democratic Republic (Somalia). QSLs for past operations will be accepted where proper documentation has been submitted. This is subject to change based on future developments in Somalia." Both operations were accepted for DXCC credit.

Franz mailed the photographs on this page, a QSL card with the information below, copies of the map to the right and copies of the currency below. Did you ever think we would have this much instant access? The world has become a small place.

It is wonderful to get the information directly from world famous DXers like Franz. We are a small community and a great fellowship! Thank you Franz for your input and willingness to travel to the ends of the earth!!

601Z - Hargeisa - Republic of Somaliland - Africa

WAZ Zone 37 ITU Zone 48

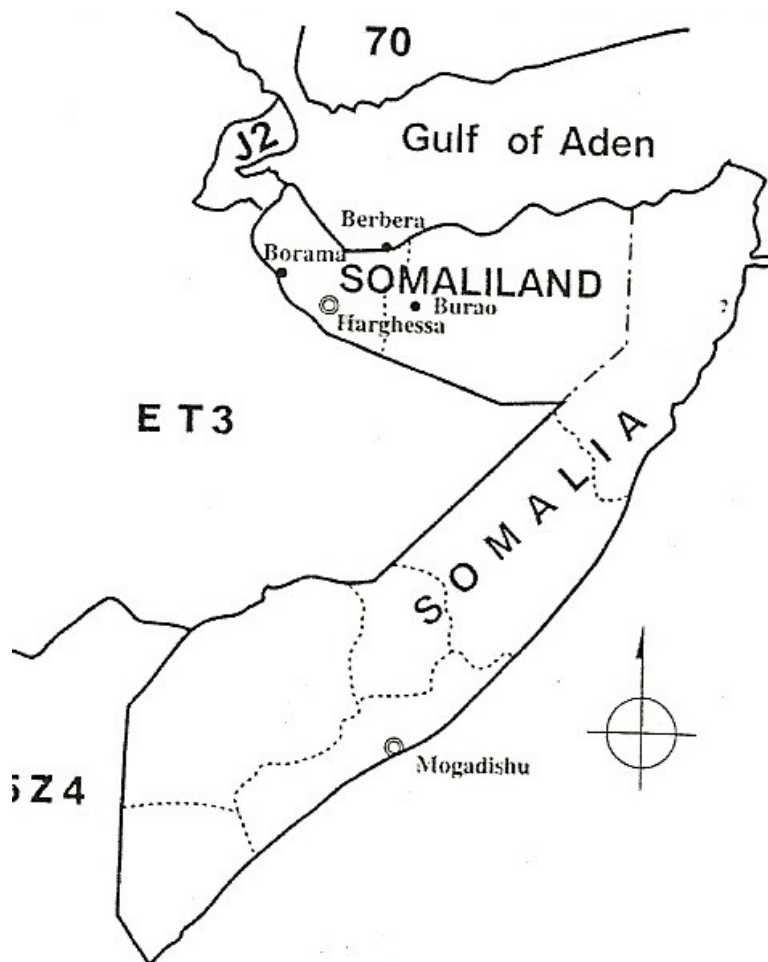
DXpedition 10-18 May 1999

The Republic of Somaliland exists since May 18th, 1991 within the borders of the old territory of the British Protectorate Somaliland (VQ6), which was released into independence in 1960. It has its own flag, national government, its own army and police, its own currency.

1.5 million people live in Somaliland located in the horn of Africa neighboring Somalia from the South and Ethiopia from the West. The capital city is Hargeisa. Thanks to Minister of Communications Ali Mohamed Waran-Ade, Muastafa Imail, Mohamed Ibrahim Regal and Ahmed Aybi. Finally thanks to XYL Marita, Kaz (DJ2AA), Stefan (DL6GV), Yaesu and Murf (W4WMQ) for the help.

Equipment:

Yaesu FT 900ATC
Daiwa PS SS-330W
Cushcraft R-6000



The Antenna



The Rig



The Licensing Authority



The View



PLEASE QSL DIRECT!!!



The Station



Local Enforcement



The Pool

T5W & T5X (DJ6SI & DL1QW) (2001)

From June 14-21 2001 Baldur, DJ6SI, and Tom, DL1QW, were in Somalia and QRV as T5X and T5W. Somalia at the time ranked number 42 on the DX Magazine's Most Wanted list and number 60 on the ARRL most wanted list. The operation was unannounced, probably for safety issues, neither was the length of stay was disclosed in advance. They returned in 2004 as 6O0W & 6O0X. I would ask Baldur about the trips but I just noticed he is in Chad for the week. He is probably operating the ARRL CW DX contest this weekend.

6O0JT Joe Talbot (VA6JWT) (2005)

Joe operated from Galkayo, in the Puntland autonomous region of Somalia. He was there for eight months from 9/2004 - 4/2005. No information about his station was found. He met with the 6O0CW group while they were in country. His operation was approved by the DXCC desk. No QSL card exists on line however one picture on the 6O0CW website shows him holding his QSL.

6O0CW (2005)

As mentioned above there was a second DXpedition to Galkayo in 2005. The I2YSB website links below contain several pictures and a great article on the trip. The operation lasted two weeks from 2/3/2005-2/17/2005. The team was quickly assembled. Silvano, I2YPSB, Andrea IK1PMR, Beppe IK2WXV, Marcello IK2DIA and Riccardo IZ5BRW were all seasoned operators and had been on DXpeditions together before. They were met by 6O0N, Adan, who made the process of surviving customs and the trip to the guest house possible. Adan died later that year in a car accident. They set up at an abandoned radio station which had a 160 foot tower at their disposal. The operation focused on the Low Bands however they did have a single six band yagi for the higher frequencies. They left a great deal of equipment including the antennas for the local amateurs. There were several studying for their license and it was conceivable that there would be an amateur radio presence there. The group still keeps in touch with the locals by email.



6O0CW

	SSB	CW	RTTY	band
160m	0	603	0	603
80m	39	763	0	802
40m	1508	2468	0	3976
30m	0	2856	71	2927
20m	2310	490	4	2804
17m	1533	1120	0	2653
15m	2812	1398	987	5197
12m	1727	1634	0	3361
10m	1106	758	0	1864
mode	11035	12090	1062	24187

Website:

<http://www.ik1pmr.com/dx-peditions/6o0cw/>

Article:

http://www.i2ysb.com/joomla5/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=104:article-6o0cw&catid=49:articoli&Itemid=128

600N (2006)

The I2YSB Group made a second Italian DXpedition to Somalia in 2006. This group was larger than the 600CW DXpedition. The team was composed of 7 members, I1HJT Alfeo, I2YSB Silvano, IK1AOD Carlo, IK1HJS Carlo, IK2CIO Vinicio, IK2CKR Angelo and IK2DIA Marcello. The operation lasted one month from 11/18/2006 to 12/18/2006. I2YSB has put together a great website with pictures and an article that described their experience. It is very good reading and lends insight into the issues operating in Somalia. Scorpions and Mambas frequented the operating locale. Either of those are deadly in that region. The article also describes a very kind and generous people who show real interest in the hobby as well as assisting foreign hams who want to operate there. The group used the six band yagi donated by the last DXpedition. It was mounted on the roof of the medical center about 30 feet in the air. The operation netted over 35,000 contacts. Given the low tribander and the dipoles for the low bands plus the bottom of the sunspot cycle the number of QSOs is significant.



600N

	SSB	CW	RTTY	band
160m	0	968	0	968
80m	1072	2138	0	3210
40m	2357	4219	0	6576
30m	0	2424	112	2536
20m	3361	4729	880	8970
17m	2731	2491	0	5222
15m	3069	2269	0	5338
12m	789	704	0	1493
10m	350	233	0	583
mode	13729	20175	992	34896

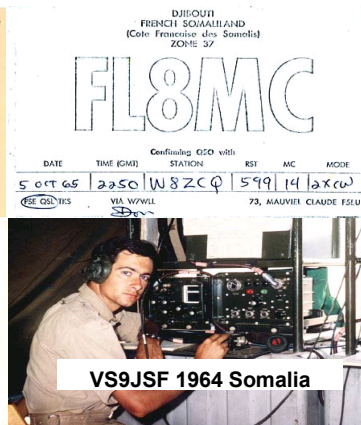
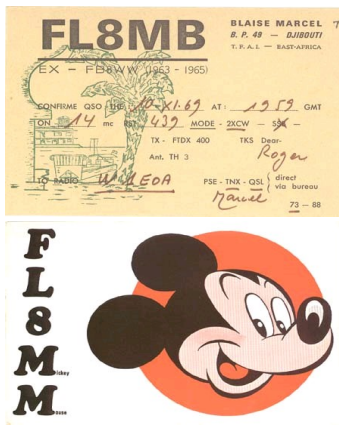
Website:

<http://www.i2ysb.com/600n/>

Article:

http://www.i2ysb.com/joomla5/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=108:article-600n-english&catid=49:articoli&Itemid=128

French Somaliland (Djibouti)



Though not part of Somalia this territory is immediately to the northwest. Here are some cards found on various websites.

Also there is a picture and a story on the K8CX Ham Gallery website about a British soldier operating on an Somali island as VS9JSF. Now this was well after their independence.



It seems that Somalia took a few more pages than expected. I did not realize that a large number of operations took place in that country. Given the current condition of the region it is not likely that we will see many more in the near future. Nevertheless the autonomous regions of Somaliland and Puntland were places that were relatively safe and accessible, and, unlike its neighbor to the north, Aden, Yemen, you can get a license from the local authority. Maybe a multinational peacekeeping presence in Puntland aimed at reducing piracy in the region will give rise to new activity.

Researching the history of the region has given an appreciation of the differences that exist on our planet. These people lead a very desperate life. Pirates in the northern region of Puntland and in the southern regions it is even worse with warlords and violence everywhere. Now Americans sailing around the world have died. The Cameroon DXpedition lost one of the beverage antennas stolen for the copper. The security for the 6O0CW operation was not for the operators alone. If left unattended the coax and antennas would have disappeared. The need is that great! It is understandable now how a little from us can go a long way there. More often than not the support sent ends up in the hands of a warlord bent on eliminating competition. This has repeatedly been the case in Somalia. As soon as one despot falls another one steps up to take his place. What can be done in a region devoid of any resources? People will still live there and there is nothing they can do to improve their quality of life. Hopefully something will change for the good in Somalia and the surrounding region.

It seems we have completed 8 of the top 10 most needed entities from the West Coast. Somalia is right next door to the last two. Actually they are way out in the Indian Ocean. From a great circle map centered on California though all of these entities are way out on the edge. Basically they are near our antipode.

Next month we possibly will complete the last two, Amsterdam, and Juan De Nova / Europa. From the pictures you see that these are uninhabited islands which should not have as much history as Somalia. Maybe there will be only a few operations from each and the article will be shorter... not!



2010 TOP 10 NEEDED COUNTRIES NORTH AMERICA WEST COAST		
1	FT5G	GLORIOSO
2	SV/A	MOUNT ATHOS
3	P5	NORTH KOREA
4	7O	YEMEN
5	FT5T	TROMELIN
6	VK0/H	HEARD ISLAND
7	KP1	NAVASSA
8	T5	SOMALIA
9	FT5Z	AMSTERDAM
10	FT5/JE	JUAN DE NOVA/EUROPA



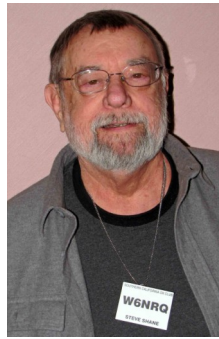
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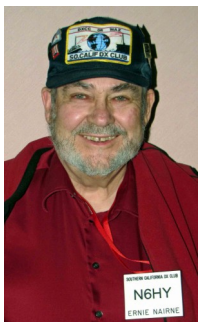
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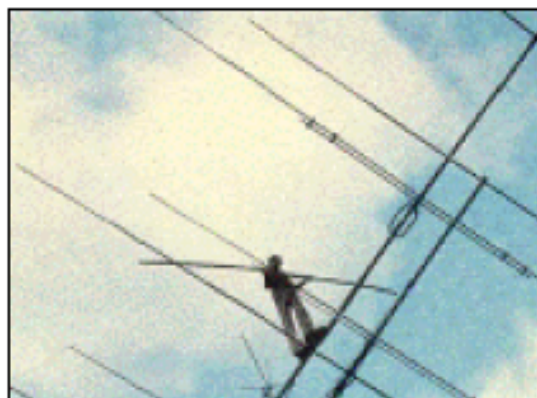
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